



A SIMPLE APPARATUS FOR HOLDING CYSTOSCOPE AND COLLECTING TUBES

There has always been a long-felt want for an apparatus that would aid the urologist in the collection of urine from the kidneys following cystoscopy. In the performance of various functional tests and certain X-ray procedures, there were difficulties encountered by many urologists who did not have access to some form of contrivance or apparatus that would hold the receptacles and cystoscope during the collection of urine following ureteral catheterization.

In recent years there have been placed upon the market various types of holders, which depend upon the principle of being clamped to the examining table, and then to the cystoscope. Most of them have been discarded as impracticable. The most commonly used table for cystoscopic work is the table with the end-leaf, which leaf can be lowered or placed at a horizontal plane parallel with the remainder of the table, enabling the patient to stretch out the limbs at full length; which position is usually employed in transferring a patient to the radiographic department for pyelograms.

For this reason I devised the following apparatus:

There is a short metal base, from the anterior part of which is a perpendicular rod, attached to which is a horseshoe-shaped bar with two depressions, which tilt at various angles. This supports the cystoscope. The latter, swinging on this stand, has a ball and socket movement. At the posterior part of the apparatus there is another perpendicular rod, which holds two adjustable shelves for different size test-tubes. The attachments are all interchangeable, making it possible to sterilize the instrument or carry it in a compact mass, and to adjust the holder to any cystoscope and to any size collecting vessel.

After cystoscopy, it is customary to raise the lower leaf of the table, adjusting the apparatus thereon. When the apparatus is in this position, the weight of the cystoscope is evenly balanced, and aids in the comfort of the patient. This position permits the patient extreme laxity of movement, such as might take place in sneezing, coughing, or other respiratory movements.

LOUIS CLIVE JACOBS.

BOOK REVIEW

Lessons on Tuberculosis and Consumption for the Household. Showing how to prevent tuberculosis, how to recognize its first symptoms, how to win back health. By Charles E. Atkinson, M.D. Illustrated. N. Y., Funk & Wagnalls Company. 1922.

It is hard to cover just the ground that would satisfy everyone in a book intended for the laity. Many of them want information on points of no importance, and others with peculiar prejudices wonder that their pet ideas are not given more attention. On the whole, this book has sailed a safe and sane course on the general principles, and will serve as a reference book in answering, by some description, most of the questions that may be asked about method. The Scotch verdict "Not proven" ought to be used a little more freely in reference to a great many methods of treatment, particularly regarding immunization and the value of vaccines.

Questions involved in the influence of climate are so largely matters of opinion, and are of so little importance as compared to opportunities for rest with good food and peace of mind, that all these secondary elements ought to be considered in a purely comparative way. It is easier to live out of doors in a warm place than a cold one, and it is pleasanter to live where it is reasonably dry. Where people can afford the luxury of so-called ideal climates it is all well and good, but the less said about it to the great mass of people the better. It seemed also that the discussion on sun baths is open to criticism, and that the prevailing opinion is that they had better be confined to surgical cases.

P. K. B.

DEATHS

Parker, John. Died in Salinas, May, 1922. Was a graduate of Medical College of the Pacific, 1874. Licensed in California, 1876.

Hutchins, Frederick. Died May 4, 1922. Was a graduate of Dartmouth Medical College, N. H., 1870. Licensed in California, 1883.

Hart, Lasher. Died in Los Angeles, May 30, 1922. Was a graduate of Syracuse University, New York, 1903. Licensed in California, 1910, and a member of the Medical Society, State of California.

Sterilization Law Held Illegal—The Supreme Court of Indiana has declared invalid the law-making provision for the sterilization by vasectomy of criminals, idiots, rapists, and imbeciles, whose mental and physical condition would make procreation inadvisable. It is particularly refreshing to note that the court did not rule upon the various controversial points connected with the practice of vasectomy, but based the decision upon the broad grounds of the Fourteenth Amendment to our Constitution.